

SR-12, Escalante to Boulder Project

The SR-12, Escalante to Boulder Environmental Study project team has begun developing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document that will assess impacts of potential improvements to SR-12 between Escalante and Boulder. This document will also pursue a Title 23 right-of-way acquisition from the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Under Title 23, which is the standard mechanism for highway right-of-way and the desired avenue for UDOT, FHWA, and BLM, FHWA will serve as the lead agency for the project.

During the extensive public involvement activities in Phase I, the project team received hundreds of comments from the public and agencies regarding solutions for SR-12. The project team has categorized these suggestions and prioritized them based on context and need. The prioritized list includes improvements that could potentially be funded within the next ten years.

The improvements that will be evaluated as part of the NEPA document are as follows:

- Obtain right-of-way where it is currently defined by RS-2477 (milepost (MP) 69 to MP 83.5*).
- Replace Calf Creek Bridge (MP 75*).
- Stabilize roadway slope south of Calf Creek Recreation Area (MP 75.3*).
- Stabilize existing barrier and investigate replacing concrete Jersey barrier with aesthetic barrier north of Calf Creek Recreation Area (MP 76.2, MP 78.2*).
- Widen shoulders in conjunction with other projects. (The intent is not for a shoulder widening project along the entire corridor, but to identify a desired typical section.)
- Provide passing turnouts (Intended to allow slow moving vehicles to pull aside and let other vehicles pass)
 - a. Evaluate westbound turnouts between MP 69 and 69.5; between MP 69.5 and MP 70; between MP 72.5 and MP 73; and between MP 83 and MP 83.5*
 - b. Evaluate eastbound turnouts between MP 72 and MP 72.5; between MP 76.5 and MP 77; and between MP 80 and MP 80.5*
- Improve intersections at Hole-in-the-Rock road (MP 65*) and Calf Creek Recreation Area (MP 75.8*).
- Investigate placing guardrail at the steeply sloped ravines in the area known as the "Big Flat" east of Escalante.
- Reclaim parking-pullout areas (Improve or reclaim areas perceived as parking areas).
- Widen curve known as "the Tank" (MP 71.5*).

Some of the identified needs that are not listed above will be addressed utilizing non-impactive measures such as better signing and striping, pavement treatments, and traffic calming elements at speed transition zones.



We would like your comments on this proposed list of improvements. Please email the project team at sr-12@hwlochner.com or contact Randi Shover at (801) 262-8700 and tell us your thoughts. A more formal comment period will take place during a public hearing in late-spring of 2007 when a draft NEPA document is available for review.

Your input has been very valuable to this project. The project team welcomes any questions, comments, or suggestions that you may have. Additional information regarding this project can be found on the project web site at:

www.udot.utah.gov/sr-12

* MP locations are approximate

